

stay until 2005. In 1993 the library received its first computer and one year later began providing Internet access. Today, the St. Ignace Public Library has a circulation of over 22,000 books, videos, audio books, and CD-ROMS and has access to six computers.

The library informs me that over the past 10 years they have watched their circulation grow by 57 percent. They have issued roughly 2,000 library cards. Between the influx of people and learning materials, their 2,600 square foot building could hardly keep up with the growth. The new library, being dedicated this Saturday, is 6,600 square feet and contains a larger children's section and expanded computer facilities. In addition, the library will contain a community room for programs, lectures and public use making this library today's new town square that will bring families together to share, learn and grow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the St. Ignace Library Board, Funding and Building Committee and Steering committee for continuing the strong legacy of growth for the library and the vision to see it through. This nearly \$1.5 million structure took many partners to accomplish. This was financed through private donations, foundations and state and federal grants as well as in-kind support went into making this happen. I was happy to be able to earmark two grants in the federal appropriations process for \$175,000 and \$225,000 to help the vision of this amazing project go from dream to reality.

Just as the City of St. Ignace is the northern home to the Mackinac Bridge that connects to our neighbors in Michigan's Lower Peninsula, this library bridges and connects to neighbors next door and across the globe. Local residents now have the opportunity to connect with their neighbors through learning and activities while also connecting to those around the world through better access to technology. I applaud the St. Ignace community for their commitment to this great accomplishment that is clearly bridging them to the future.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BEAVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Beaver United Methodist Church of Beaver, Pennsylvania on its 175th anniversary.

The Beaver United Methodist Church will celebrate two momentous anniversaries this year. Not only will the congregation celebrate the 175th anniversary of its first meeting, but they will celebrate the 100th anniversary of meeting in its current location in Beaver, Pennsylvania. The church will celebrate these anniversaries with two months of activities, including plays and music recitals.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the congregation Beaver United Methodist Church in Beaver, Pennsylvania. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute an enduring institution like Beaver United Methodist Church.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES T. WILKERSON

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Charles T. Wilkerson, 30, originally of Columbus, Georgia, died on May 22, 2005, in Iraq. Sergeant Wilkerson was assigned to the Army's 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment of Fort Carson, Colorado, and according to initial reports was killed when an unknown ordnance detonated. His survivors include his wife Whitney and his two children; his mother Tomasa Goodwin of Columbus; and his father, Thomas Wilkerson of Phenix City, Alabama.

Charles Wilkeson was a proud father and had been a member of both the Marine Corps and the Army, Mr. Speaker. He had a strong faith in God, and like all soldiers he dutifully left behind his family and loved ones to serve our country overseas.

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude our country feels for his service. Sergeant Wilkerson died serving not just the United States, but the entire cause of liberty, on a noble mission to help spread the cause of freedom in Iraq and liberate an oppressed people from tyrannical rule. He was a true American.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this mournful day.

HONORING MICHAEL L. COOK

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, after 27 years of serving people with intellectual disabilities, Michael L. Cook is retiring as the Executive Director of Orange Grove Center in Chattanooga, TN. After receiving his Master's degree in Behavioral Disabilities, Mike Cook began his career as a direct support professional with Central Wisconsin Center and Training School. He then served as a field representative with the Accreditation Council for Individuals with Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities before coming to Orange Grove in 1978. During his tenure at Orange Grove Center, Mr. Cook transformed this community organization into one of the most respected agencies in the field of mental retardation in the Nation. Today, Orange Grove has a comprehensive, person-centered program serving in excess of 650 adults and children in a variety of settings.

Mike Cook's quiet dedication to improving the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities has been the foundation of all that Orange Grove has accomplished over the years. Having served as Executive Director for more than half of the center's 52 years, Mr. Cook has left an indelible mark on every aspect of life for the people who are in their care. Mr. Cook's devotion can be best summed up in

the words of Orange Grove's vision statement: "To recognize, support, and celebrate the qualities of the individual." That has been Mike Cook's vision for the past 27 years. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute and honor Orange Grove Center's Mike Cook.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WEST PITTSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the West Pittsburgh United Methodist Church on its 100th anniversary.

This spring, the church will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its foundation in 1905. The congregation is a source of inspiration and symbol of strength for all its members and the Lawrence County community as a whole. In order to mark the special occasion, the church will host a 4 p.m. dinner to be followed by a 5:30 p.m. service featuring former pastors who will no doubt share memories of their times at West Pittsburgh.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the West Pittsburgh United Methodist Church. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute an enduring institution like the West Pittsburgh congregation.

CONGRATULATING ROCHE ON ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations on the 100th Anniversary of Roche, one of the leading healthcare innovators in the world. Roche is a specialty care company that employs over 10,000 people in America and 60,000 globally. I am proud to represent the 3,000 people employed by Roche North America at its headquarters in Nutley, New Jersey, in my Congressional District. We are fortunate that these folks chose to lend their tremendous talents individually and collectively to improving the quality of healthcare for us.

For a century now, Roche has invested in advanced research and manufacturing techniques that have yielded breakthroughs in healthcare. Founded in Switzerland in 1896, Roche's roots in America are deep and strong, dating back to the opening of its New York office in 1905. From its start in Manhattan in 1905, Roche has extended its reach to nine sites across the United States, with facilities in New Jersey, South Carolina, Colorado, Indiana, and California.

There are many examples of how Roche's commitment to deepening our understanding of human health and developing revolutionary treatments and tools has reaped benefits for Americans. Roche's discoveries have led to an immunosuppressant to help people fight off